than air, settles down on the ground. This makes PNG much safer than LPG.

Sakhalin Project of ONGC

232. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government raised the controversies over ONGC Sakhalin Project with the Russian Government during the recent visit of President Putin;

(b) if so, the details of such talks;

(c) the specific conclusions and gains and clarity for ONGC due to recent visit of Russian President;

(d) whether it is a fact that ONGC has been asked to reduce its stake in Sakhalin; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) During the visit of Russian President to India in January 2007, both sides acknowledged the potential of expanding cooperation in the oil and gas sector and agreed to further enhance direct dialogue between their oil and gas companies. On the sidelines of the visit, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Russian Rosneft oil company signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on setting up two joint working groups — one each for upstream and downstream activities.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

International Energy Conference, Petrotech-2007

233. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has proposed a multi-pronged strategy that includes

faster exploration of domestic sedimentary basins to enhance indigenous production of fuel from the existing producing fields, acquisitions abroad to supplement domestic production and development as well as commercialization of alternative fuels, in order to secure energy at affordable rates;

(b) if so, whether the International Energy Conference, Petrotech-2007 was held in New Delhi in the month of March;

(c) if so, the main points discussed therein; and

(d) the steps being taken to implement its recommendation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. India's strategy for securing Energy Security has been incorporated in "Hydrocarbon Vision-2025", a document of Government of India.

(b) The 7th International Oil & Gas Conference and Exhibition 'Petrotech-2007' on the theme 'Energy, Economy, Equity and Ecology' was held in New Delhi during January 15 to 19, 2007.

(c) Petrotech-2007 provided a platform where oil and gas industry professionals across the globe interacted and deliberated upon strategies & technologies to increase the exploration, exploitation and conservation of hydrocarbons. Topics pertaining to both upstream and downstream sectors of the oil and gas industry were discussed in detail. Main points taken from deliberations were:

- Hydrocarbon exploration
- Deep & ultra-deep-water exploration & development
- Integrated reservoir management
- Emerging energy options
- Refinery operations & optimizations etc.

(d) During various sessions in the conference, covering both upstream and downstream oil and gas industry, there was an open exchange of ideas. There were no specific recommendations made for the purpose of implementation, however, delegates/participants have taken note of deliberations in the Conference for implementation in their respective organization.